<u>Abstract</u>

The invention, in one embodiment, processes a plurality of records, each of the records having an associated plurality of attributes, the plurality of records being divisible into at least two categories. More particularly, the invention assigns as a class of one dimensional vectors the records and/or the attributes; employs an maximum number K of uncorrelated vectors to be identified from the class of one-dimensional vectors; employs a threshold value; chooses a first vector from the class of one-dimensional vectors as a member of an uncorrelated vector set; and performs iteratively the steps of selecting an additional vector from the class of vectors, computing a correlation parameter using the first vector and the additional vector, comparing the correlation parameter to the threshold value, and adding the additional vector to the uncorrelated set of vectors if the correlation parameter is not greater than the threshold value.

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